

From: Ricker, Monique T. EOP/USTR Monique_T_Ricker@ustr.eop.gov  
Subject: RE: FOIA Requests USTR-18-0840 and USTR-18-045
Date: December 17, 2018 at 12:46 PM
To: American Oversight FOIA foia@americanoversight.org
Cc: FN-USTR-FOIA FN-USTR-FOIA@ustr.eop.gov



Katie,

This email is the final response of the Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) No. FY19-23, which aggregates your substantially similar requests (USTR-18-0840 and USTR-18-045) submitted on November 19, 2018.

Utilizing eDiscovery software, we conducted two searches of the files of USTR officials Robert Lighthizer, Stephen Vaughn (acting USTR through May 15, 2017), Jeff Gerrish, CJ Mahoney (Deputy USTR), Dennis Shea (Deputy USTR), Jamieson Greer, Pamela Marcus, G. Payne Griffin, Michael Beeman, Karl Ehlers, John Melle, and Gregory Walters. First, we searched for emails, attachments, calendar entries and invitations sent to or received from email domains ending in @who.eop.gov, @ovp.eop.gov, @mail.house.gov, senate.gov, @accj.or.jp, @uschamber.com, @usjbc.org, @jcbc.gr.jp, @uschina.org, @uschina.org.cn, or @brazilcouncil.org related to Sheldon Adelson or casinos, including the Las Vegas Sands and Venetian. We did not locate records responsive to your request.

Second, we searched for emails, attachments, calendar entries and invitations including the search terms Sheldon, Adelson, Sands, or Venetian. We located one responsive document totaling four pages which we are withholding in part. We redacted non-USG contact information that is not publicly available because we reasonably foresee that disclosure would harm an interest protected by FOIA Exemption 6, which protects personal information the release of which would not shed light on the performance of the agency's statutory duties.

The latter search produced thousands of unresponsive hits, e.g., emails containing the names Amy Sands, a reporter, Christopher Sands, a professor, Senator Sheldon Whitehouse, Sheldon Wuttunee, and author, and Franz Adelson, a Department of State employee. There were also emails transmitting drafts of the tariff schedule which contain both venetian blinds and sands.

This constitutes a complete response to your request. You may contact me or my colleague Melissa Keppel by email at FOIA@ustr.eop.gov or 202-395-3419 for any further assistance and to discuss any aspect of your request. Additionally, you may contact the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) at the National Archives and Records Administration to inquire about the FOIA mediation services they offer. The contact information for OGIS is as follows: Office of Government Information Services, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road-OGIS, College Park, Maryland 20740-6001, e-mail at ogis@nara.gov; telephone at 202-741-5770; toll free at 1-877-684-6448; or facsimile at 202-741-5769.

If you are not satisfied with the response to this request, you may also administratively appeal by writing to: FOIA Office, GSD/RDF; ATTN: Janice Kaye, Anacostia Naval Annex, Bldg. 410/Door 123, 250 Murray Lane, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20509.

Your appeal must be postmarked or electronically transmitted within 90 days of the date of the response to your request. Both the letter and the envelope should be clearly marked: "Freedom of Information Act Appeal" and should include a reference to the FOIA Case File number listed above. Heightened security in force may delay mail delivery; therefore we suggest that you also email any such appeal to foia@ustr.eop.gov.

In the event you are dissatisfied with the results of any such appeal, judicial review will thereafter be available to you in the United States District Court for the judicial district in which you reside or have your principal place of business, or in the District of Columbia, where we searched for the records you requested.

Thank you,
Monique

Monique T. Ricker
FOIA Program Manager/Attorney

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE
WASHINGTON DC 20508

From: Ricker, Monique T. EOP/USTR <Monique_T_Ricker@ustr.eop.gov>
Sent: Monday, December 3, 2018 12:05 PM
To: American Oversight FOIA <foia@americanoversight.org>
Cc: FN-USTR-FOIA <FN-USTR-FOIA@ustr.eop.gov>
Subject: RE: FOIA Requests USTR-18-0840 and USTR-18-045

Mr. McGrath,
The Office of the United States Trade Representative (USTR) received two Freedom of Information (FOIA) requests from you on November 19, 2018. We have aggregated your requests (USTR-18-0840 and USTR-18-045) because they seek similar information (15 CFR 2004.6(c)(2)) and assigned it tracking number FY19-23. Specifically, we will search USTR records for email communications the named USTR political appointees and career employees exchanged with email domains ending in @who.eop.gov, @ovp.eop.gov, @mail.house.gov, senate.gov, @accj.or.jp, @uschamber.com, @usjbc.org, @jubc.gr.jp, @uschina.org, @uschina.org.cn, and/or @brazilcouncil.org related to Sheldon Adelson (including his businesses, the Las Vegas Sands and the Venetian) or casinos (including prospective casinos, casino-related lobbying, tax interests of the casino industry, and casino licenses) as well as search all email communications of named USTR employees containing Sands, Venetian, Sheldon or Adelson (part 2 of USTR-18-045). The timeframe for this search is January 20, 2017 to November 21, 2018, the date the search was conducted.

Our office will provide you with a determination on or before December 17, 2018.

Thank you,
Monique

Monique T. Ricker
FOIA Program Manager/Attorney

FOIA Program Manager/Attorney

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE
WASHINGTON DC 20508



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[EXTERNAL] Fwd: June Agenda

From: Elms Asian Trade Centre **(b) (6)** [asiantradecentre.org](mailto:@asiantradecentre.org)

To: "Ehlers, Karl R. EOP/USTR" <karl_r_ehlers@ustr.eop.gov>

Date: Tue, 27 Mar 2018 11:03:40 -0400

Attachments: SME Summit Agenda.docx (10.15 kB)

Here it is.

Deborah Elms
Executive Director
Asian Trade Centre
41A Ann Siang Road Singapore
(b) (6) [asiantradecentre.org](mailto:@asiantradecentre.org)
[>www.asiantradecentre.org<](http://www.asiantradecentre.org)

Begin forwarded message:

From: Deborah Elms **(b) (6)** [asiantradecentre.org](mailto:@asiantradecentre.org)
Date: 20 March 2018 at 10:03:21 AM
Subject: June Agenda

Here is the start of our agenda for the June 5 SME Digital Economy Summit.

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Deborah Elms, Ph.D.
Executive Director, Asian Trade Centre
Vice Chair, Asia Business Trade Association
41A Ann Siang Road
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(b) (6) [asiantradecentre.org](mailto:@asiantradecentre.org)
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SME Summit: Enabling SMEs In The Digital Age

Time: June 6, 2018

Venue: **Marina Bay Sands**

Ticket Fees: S\$25

SBF Members and AMTC members have 100 free passes. Apply by May 20th 2018

(Notes: Charging participants help to: (1) make them feel the event is more attractive and (2) encourage them to actually show up after signing up)

Description:

Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) are the backbone of most Asian economies and have become the main economic driver in Asia. Despite being the main employers of the labor force, SME's contribution to GDP in Asia is still in the lower range, implying the potential of smaller firms have yet to be unlocked and fulfilled.

Digital trade is the key tool for SMEs to explore and reach its full potential. However, many SMEs are not fully aware of the benefits and opportunities that digital trade can offer. Being able to utilize digital trade, SMEs will become more competitive and better prepared for new opportunities.

This summit aims to provide SMEs with better understanding about digital trade and the tools they can use to become more digitally competitive.

Topics:

Two possible tracks: Goods and Services

Applicable Category	Topic	Stakeholders to be engaged
Both	Understanding international trade and trade landscape in Asia (ASEAN, APEC, CTPP, RCEP)	ATC
Both	Understanding digital trade and e-commerce: the challenges and the opportunities	ATC
Both	How to do effective digital marketing?	Facebook, Google
Both	SMEs going global: sharing stories of success and failure	AMTC, SBF

Both	IP and why it matters to SMEs?	IP Academy
Both	E-payment for SMEs	Visa, Paypal, Mastercard
Both	Data privacy, data protection, free movement of data: important policy trends and why these policies matter to SMEs	ATC, Google
Both	Building the ecosystem for SMEs and MNCs: why it matters?	AMTC, Google, Autodesk, UPS
Goods	Trade facilitation in ASEAN: ASEAN Single Window	ATC, SBF
Goods	Logistics and global value chains	UPS, LogiSYM, Raymon, Get Go Global
Goods	How to utilize available e-commerce platforms to enter global market?	Amazon, Ebay, Lazada, Zalora, Sea
Services	How to enable service providers in the digital age?	Google, Autodesk, Squarespace, Wordpress, bizzi.co
Services	How to bring your brand to potential customers?	Facebook, Google
Services	New trends in the digital age that will help to enable more services providers: IoT, ?	

Agenda:

Time	Goods Track	Services Track
8.45-9.00	Registration	
9.00-9.45	Understanding international trade and trade landscape in Asia (ASEAN, APEC, CTPP, RCEP)	
9.45-10.30	Understanding digital trade and e-commerce: the challenges and the opportunities	
10.30-10.45	Break	
10.45-11.30	SMEs going global: sharing stories of success and failure	

11.30-12.15	Data privacy, data protection, free movement of data: important policy trends and why these policies matter to SMEs	
12.15-13.45	Lunch	
13.45-14.15	IP and why it matters to SMEs?	
14.15-14.45	E-payment for SMEs (Payoneer?)	
14.45-15.00	Break	
15.00-15.45	How to do effective digital marketing?	How to do effective digital marketing?
15.45-16.30	How to utilize available e-commerce platforms to enter global market? (Amazon, Ebay, Lazada, Zalora)	How to utilize available e-commerce platforms to enter global market? (Konsus, Upwork)
16.30-17.15	Logistics and global value chains for SMEs going global	How to enable service providers in the digital age?
17.15-17.45	Building the ecosystem for SMEs and MNCs: why it matters?	
Closing remarks	Closing remarks	